# LICENSES AND CONSUMER SERVICES LICENSE INSPECTOR'S REPORT Extended Hours License L317-50029

**Purpose of Application:** Sanaag Coffee & Restaurant is requesting to extend their business's hours of operation to the following:

Sunday- Saturday from 6 a.m. to 1:00 a.m..

Applicant's Name (Legal Entity): Sanaag Coffee & Restaurant, Inc.

Complete Address: 3007 Cedar Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55407

**Telephone Number:** (612) 998-1166

**Current License:** Restaurant

Zoning District: C2/PO

**Current Authorized Hours:** Sunday-Thursday, 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Friday-Saturday, 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Neighborhood/Ward: Corcoran

Date of Application: July 23, 2012

**Inspector:** Julie Casey

**Public Hearing Requirement:** A public hearing is required for this license application. 67 notices were mailed to residents and property owners within 300 feet of the premises and emailed to the Corcoran Neighborhood Group and Lake Street Council on September 19, 2012. The public hearing will be held on October 11, 2012 at the Regulatory, Energy and Environment Committee meeting. The Department received two responses. One written response did not recommend approval of the extended hours due to issues in the neighborhood regarding noise. The second was a phone call inquiry. The caller decided to withhold a recommendation as he wanted to discuss his issues directly with the applicant.

**Background:** The applicant has operated a restaurant at this location since June 12, 2009. The restaurant serves ethnic food that primarily serves Somali residents. The applicant wishes to have extended hours primarily due to the observance of Ramadan. During Ramadan, participants fast during daylight hours. This means that the restaurant patrons would not come to the restaurant during their fasting times and the applicant makes a decision to close his restaurant and not open until sunset. Some years this means the restaurant would only be open a few hours. To be consistent with their hours they wish to have 1 a.m. all through the year.

#### Findings as Required by the Minneapolis Licensing Code:

The Licenses and Consumer Services Division has analyzed the application and concludes that the application has answered the following:

## A security plan that describes the security features, including personnel and equipment, that the applicant will employ and how they will be utilized:

The property management company has installed and does monitor security cameras inside and outside the building. Employees are encouraged to call 911 for assistance. The business owner calls for police assistance through Crime Prevention Specialist Karen Notsch on a regular basis. Ms. Notsch assisted the applicant with writing his security plan for the extended hour's license.

Description of how the applicant will maintain the orderly appearance and operation of the premises with respect to litter and noise: This business is located within a shopping center that is managed by a property management group. Litter is regularly removed by the current management. During a recent problem with the previous owner of the shopping center, the applicant organized the entire shopping center to hold rent and pay for utilities including removal of the garbage and the picking up litter. This restaurant has no outside patios and does not offer entertainment. Noise remains in the interior of the business. There have been no neighborhood complaints concerning the conduct of this business. The owner has contacted the neighbors on the 3000 block of Cedar Avenue and requested complaints be made directly to him.

Description of how the business will have people exit the establishment at closing time and during an emergency that requires all people to exit the establishment quickly: The employees are instructed to assist customers to leave the business in pairs or groups to assure safety.

**Such other reasonable and pertinent information as the city council may require:** This business is located at the corner of Cedar and Lake. The closest business with hours after 11 p.m. is at 16<sup>th</sup> and East Lake Street.

Sanaag Coffee & Restaurant is located within a shopping center. Another business in the building Shiraz Hookah LLC has been the source of complaints concerning noise and criminal activity from other businesses in the shopping center. Shiraz Hookah LLC will be closing their business as of October 7, 2012. This may lighten or eliminate the complaints from the neighborhood.

Proximity to permitted or conditional residential uses. Nature of the business and its impacts of noise, light and traffic.

The establishment borders a residential area.

Conformance with applicable zoning regulations, including but not limited to use, yards, gross floor area and specific development standards.

The existing business is categorized as a restaurant which is a permitted use in the C2 district.

## History of complaints related to the use.

There have been no neighborhood complaints concerning the operation of this specific business since 2009.

## **RECOMMENDATION** (pending public hearing):

The Licenses and Consumer Services Division makes the following recommendation regarding this application to extend hours:

The Business License Department will make a recommendation on this application after the public hearing is held at REE.